

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: CICIORA STEVEN JOSEP <ciciora@spot.Colorado.EDU>
Subject: [3788] 'Stelth' antennas
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.951004133418.29782C-100000@spot.Colorado.EDU>

All this talk about 'stealth' antennas has convinced me to give it a try (currently, I have a 20 m dipole 8 feet off the ground; not much good except for receiving). I'm thinking about a long wire, with a counterpoise on the other side, same length (like a dipole, but not tuned). I plan on running this around my house, just below roof line (about 1 foot in from the gutters). I will try to make it as long as possible, but will have several bends, go up and down, etc. Should be about 20 feet of the ground in front, 60 feet off the ground in back. A few questions:

- 1) Why do people say to use 300 ohm TV line? is it just because it is balanced? Or does it have something to do with 300 ohms?
- 2) I'm thinking of making a remote antenna tuner. 50 ohm coax from the radio to the tuner, no feed line after that (just antenna). I'm thinking of a pi tuner (cap in series in, inductor to ground, cap in series out). Where should I put a ballun to go from un-balanced (coax) to balanced (I hope) random wire antenna? Before or after the tuner?
- 3) How do you use an antenna tuner? Can't afford one that comes with instructions, but I think I can build one. Do you adjust the inductor for max power transfer, than both caps? Just keep twiddling until you get the most power transfer?
- 4) As long as I'm making this antenna as big as possible, what about connecting both ends on the other side, and making it a big horizontal loop?

Oh, ya. I hope to work on 40 meters, being a new tech plus. Once I get a rig on the air, I can work on my code speed!

Thanks for your help!
-Steven Ciciora
KB0PJF

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: joe@westonia.com (Joseph Cooper)
Subject: [3798] 1750 meters
Message-ID: <m0t0dmk-0010I7C@gpu.westonia.com>

I'd like to correspond with anyone in this group who is currently active on 1750 meters
(160khz to 190khz)

I am particularly looking for anyone who is active in the Buffalo, Upstate N.Y. area.

Thanks and 72's

=====
* Joseph Cooper-VE3FMQ QTH-East York-near Toronto Ontario Canada *
* Interests are:- BCB and VLF Radio-Woodworking-Steam Railroads - *
* -Nikola Tesla-Antique Radios-Crystal Radios-Travel-Burmese Cats *
* FAX (416) 423-7782 9:00pm to 5:00pm EDST Monday To Friday Only *

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: af840@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Chris W Brakhage)
Subject: [3802] antennas
Message-ID: <9510050123.AA16201@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

To qrp/l-gang ;

There has been a lot of bandwidth on stealth-antennas lately.

During my years of ham activity I found many objects in the variety of quarters that radiated well to be considered an antenna: Air condition ducts, Balcony fence, curtain rod etc. Just use your imagination and judgment and available metal objects and snoop with a clip-lead to a receiver for results. It does not have to be a copper wire! 73 WB5FKC.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: davida@utw.com (David A McPhie)
Subject: [3804] boatanchors
Message-ID: <199510050130.TAA27042@stellar.comnet.com>

Anybody. Know the e mail address for the tube type radio gear mailing list called boatanchors?

If so please e-mail me the address. tnx Dave WA7YCA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG>
Subject: [3769] Cascade & Q-dope
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951004073414.3043B-1000000@class.class.org>

Here's a question from a relative newbie. I'm watching the posts about fixes, etc., and waiting for it all to shake out a bit before I start, (ahem) attempting to build my Cascade. I've read in the manual about coating the VFO coil with Q-dope. First of all, I know what Q-dope is and I know why you use it. Thing is...I don't have any and don't know where to get it. Two question, really...

1. What would constitute a reasonable substitute for Q-dope? Mike Ardai mentioned making some from acetone and packing peanuts. Anyone have a recipe along those lines?

2. How terrible a crime is it if I DON'T (gasp!) use it at all? And why is it necessary in the Cascade when it wasn't in the 40a?

Maybe the replies (I hope there are some) should be posted to the list...I might not be the only lost soul wondering about this.

72/73 David N2SMH
Glen Rock NJ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [3776] Cascade & Q-dope
Message-ID: <9509048128.AA812833630@smtpgwy.windata.com>

I am not familiar with the Cascade, but I think in general the reason for Q-doping the coils is to prevent microphonic (vibration) problems with the radio. The turns on the coil, if not glued down firmly, can move or vibrate. The radio will still work OK if sitting on a table that never wiggles. If the rig is going to be used portable, you should dope the coils (and tie down any wire bundles, large components that stand high off the board, etc.).

Q-dope, or at least any of a number of substitutes for it, used to be available at any electronic parts places, including TV repair

shops. Mail order places , and junk / surplus dealers often have bottles of the stuff on their shelves, too. I dont know if it is one of those chemicals that the enviro-nazi's have vowed to exterminate or not; If so, you will have to go to the surplus places.

If all else fails, look for some plastic model cement. (yes, the kind thats full of toluene and may be another item on their list) That is the same substance --I think-- as Q-dope, but with less dissolved plastic filler in it. Its consistency is too thin to do a good job on coils, but if you can pour a small amount into a sealable container (it will harden, otherwise!) and dissolve into it a bit of polystyrene - yes, packing peanuts may work, if they are the styrene kind -- you will get a nice, sticky, smelly putty that will be very effective at staking down those wiggly coils. It will harden (and stop stinking) quickly.

Harry
WA1VVH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Jim Kortge, NU8N" <jokortge@sun.lisp.com>
Subject: [3807] Cascade on 40 meters
Message-ID: <9510050153.AB26453@sun>

Gang...I am building my Cascade on 40/17 meters. Here is progress to date.

I ordered 20 crystals on 12.288 MHz from Digikey plus all of the requisite capacitors for doing the filters. It was ordered Monday at noon and was in the mailbox when I got home from work today. Good service!!

Out of the 20 crystals, I got three sets of 5 crystals for i.f. filters which only have a total spread of about 60 Hz within a group, much better results than I expected. I did have to short out one of the L3, L33 duo to get the BFO frequency into the 12.288 MHz range. With both inductors in the circuit, the crystals were in excess of 1 MHz too low. Who says you can't pull crystals!!

I put two extra turns on the VFO torroid, (27 after the tap) and it measures at 4.8 uH instead of 5.1. I don't know if my meter is off. Will see where the vfo tunes with the torroid installed in the VFO circuit. Stay tuned.

As a suggestion, I usually put an insulator made out of 0.005 inch drafting mylar under each crystal so that they can be pressed down to the circuit board, and yet have the bottom of the crystal case insulated so that it doesn't short out

any traces. Try it if your not past that stage.

Also, with regard to the grounding of the case near the output transistor, I'd suggest using a grounding lug on the bnc connector tied to the top of the pc board adjacent to the connector. When the back case is attached, it should be pretty well bonded to the pc board without drilling any extra holes. I'll let everyone know if that method is viable.

That's all for this trip. Anybody else doing their Cascade on 40/17, or am I the only one??

72/73...Jim

Jim Kortge, NU8N		Bicycle Mobile Hams
jokortge@lisp.com		of America
Fenton, MI	_`\<,	Mizuho 17m/40m QRP SSB
.. .. .	(*)/(*)	

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995

From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

Subject: [3789] Caution, labels, coatings, fillers

Message-ID: <n1399303400.81648@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Q dope et al: Please all, read the labels. GC Electronics chemicals are pretty well labeled with what is in them in the fine print, and appropriate cautions in using. Main one, use most in well ventilated area. Especially, so, when doing up your own brew. Watch skin contact, wear gloves, eye protection, etc.

I would paint on the Q dope, as GC provides,(a nice little brush). A thin coat goes a long way.

Alternate coatings caution: The reason "some" epoxies might not be good for high Q are the fillers used in them. For example, once was on a consulting job to measure the attenuation of 160 M (Loran frequencies) through some power transformers the Coast Guard was going to use in the AC supply to a Loran station.

The coast Guard spec said the 160M was to be attenuated so many dB back to the power line three phase primary. When I arrived, I found these were tape windings, of copper ribbons, on an iron tape core, so each transformer Y leg was a cylinder of coiled up ribbons. A dry type transformer. But to fill up the unused space in the aluminum box for each winding, they had used epoxy, but to cut down on the expense, filled it with guess what- gravel and a top coat of sand. Turned out the "gravel" had high iron content, and helped "tune" each winding to increase the amount 160M energy leaked to the primary! Thus, the fillers affect the RF property of the coating used. An example of

an unknown would be: what is the coloring agent in many plastic peanuts?
73, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: paxton@sound.net (frank paxton iii)
Subject: [3809] clarostat/ 10 turn 100k pot wanted
Message-ID: <199510050214.VAA15796@sound.net>

hi. i'm a new subscriber to the list. just built a NE4040. now i want to
find a 10-turn 100k pot WITH clarostat (calibrated verneer(sp) dial).
the new ones are HIGH. the dial alone is \$ 20 here in kc. 16 @ digikey.
plus i need the 10 turn pot. anyone have one, or know where i can score ? :)

love my 4040 ... with precise analog readout it will be lean and MEAN !

tnx.

frank (ng0n)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Gary R. Hanson" <ghanson@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
Subject: [3780] Fast response
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951004123159.12134A-100000@curly.cc.utexas.edu>

Wow! You guys are fast. Thanks to Jim, Niel, Glen and Chuck for sending
me the foxhunt info in less than hour after my initial posting. I now have
four copies so I should be able to enter the fray!

See you on 7040,

Gary
KJ5VW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: jps@kodak.com (John P. Spoonhower)
Subject: [3792] for sale ohr 20m spirit
Message-ID: <9510042042.AA07309@lumi.Kodak.COM>

Guys & Ladies,
I have an OHR 20M Spirit CW transceiver for sale. It's in excellent condition,

Ecuador, over the last four days. The DX season has begun. Bottom of the solar cycle, Who Cares !

This past week I also worked two new countrys, HB0/HB9NL in Leichtenstein and 3V8AS in Tunisia Africa. This brings my DXCC country count up to 108

Conditions are actually supposed to get better, up to the middle of the month. Can you believe it ?

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET (ERNEST GREGOIRE)
Subject: [3782] FOX HUNT please help
Message-ID: <199510041745.NAA30017@dartvax.dartmouth.edu>

Hello Gang,

Alright! I confess!

I did not read any of the Fox hunt messages before today.
>From what I gather, this is not a direction finding type of fox hunt.
It sounds like your looking for a needle in a hay stack.
Can somebody please fill me in on this type of fox hunt?
It sounds like fun.

de AA1IK	(Lead by example, It is much easier)
	(to pull a string than it is to push it.)
Ernie Gregoire	()
Canaan, NH.	()
	(_____)

e-mail : GREGOIRE@VALLEY.NET
packet : AA1IK@WA1WOK.FN43FE.NH.USA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Gary R. Hanson" <ghanson@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
Subject: [3773] Foxhunt info
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951004101654.9794D-100000@curly.cc.utexas.edu>

I just joined qrp-1 yesterday and I would like to join the foxhunt. Could

someone point me to the basic info for getting started?. I know it must be in the archives somewhere, but didn't want to wade through 500 messages to find it. Thanks for the help.

I'm running Bruce Williams' QRP kit, TXRX with a single crystal on 7040 with about 3 watts. (See 73 mag, April, 1993 for a description). Am having a ball! Have managed to work quite a few states, a VE6, VE7, XE1 and a HC3 with a simple inverted vee dipole.

73's,
Gary
KJ5VW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: groverc@gvgadg.gvg.TEK.COM (Grover Cleveland)
Subject: [3814] GRC-109 Sold
Message-ID: <9510050455.AA23782@gvgadg.gvg.tek.com>

The GRC-109 set that I offered to the Net has been sold and is on its way to its new home in Illinois. Thanks for the interest - I had over fifty responses to my post.

73

Grover WT6P

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: af840@rgfn.epcc.Edu (Chris W Brakhage)
Subject: [3803] Help
Message-ID: <9510050126.AA16707@rgfn.epcc.Edu>

To qrp/l-gang;

Inactive ARCI member needs help. Who is the ARCI awards mgr.?

Does he have an E-mail address? How much is the worked 500

members certificate? Tnx es 73 Chris WB5FKC/qrp.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca (Paul Erickson)
Subject: [3785] HW-8 question
Message-ID: <9510041855.AA00748@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca>

On 40 meters with my HW-8 I have to run the preselector fully clockwise for the whole band, and cannot peak it like I can 80 and 20. Is this typical?

cheers, Paul
VE7CQK
email: paul1@wizard.ucs.sfu.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Stan Skelton <sskelton@cln.etc.bc.ca>
Subject: [3783] logging programs
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9510020937.A14844-0100000@sparky>

On the subject of logging programs...Paul VE7CQK got some advice re DXBase and DXLog...I think there are a couple of "shareware" programs out there that do the same type of thing..Anyone know of them???

73's Stan...VE7SKT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: mjsilva@ix.netcom.com (michael silva)
Subject: [3801] Making Q-dope
Message-ID: <199510042350.QAA25826@ix8.ix.netcom.com>

Regarding making your own Q-dope by dissolving styrofoam in acetone, has anybody actually been able to make this work? When I tried it, I just got a coagulated lump of plastic at the bottom of the jar (exactly the consistancy of melted cheese). The more styrofoam I added the bigger the lump got, but it never blended into the solvent, even with vigorous stirring. I tried a few different sources of styrofoam (packing peanuts, molded packing ends) with the same results. The only

good part was the great dissolving effect itself, complete with hissing.

So, anybody else have better success?

73,
Mike, KK6GM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: groverc@gvgadg.gvg.TEK.COM (Grover Cleveland)
Subject: [3813] Pacificon
Message-ID: <9510050453.AA23775@gvgadg.gvg.tek.com>

Would some kind soul give me a brief blurb about Pacificon?
I'm not currently subscribed to the QRO magazines so I have
no ad to refer to.

Many tnx

WT6P

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "david (d.) burniston" <davidgb@bnr.ca>
Subject: [3815] Q- Dope... An Alternative.
Message-ID: <"25232 Thu Oct 5 08:18:50 1995"@bnr.ca>

Hi,

According to a Hint in RadCom, " Beeswax is FAR superior to any other
coil fixing agent".

It's inexpensive and can be melted on using a soldering iron, and allows
future adjustments by holding the iron close to melt the wax. You can
also use it to fix components to boards, etc in VFO's.

I picked up 2 large Beeswax candles for a about \$3. Should last a long
time.

.. Dave
VE3LFO

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: moyle@essc.psu.edu (Alfred M. Moyle)
Subject: [3770] Q-Dope
Message-ID: <9510041510.AA29356@seismic.geosc.psu.edu>

I believe that Doug DeMaw used to advocate making your own Q-dope out of bits of polystyrene from model air planes dissolved in carbon tetrachloride. The problem is that it's getting hard to buy carbon tet due to it's role in depleting the ozone. The solvent in real Q-dope is toluene.

If you want to buy some real Q-dope, it is available from Ocean State electronics in Rhode Island. I forget the price, but for a few bucks you get what is essentially a lifetime supply of the stuff. One nice thing about Ocean State is that their minimum order is only \$10. Hope this helps ...

72,
Al Moyle N3KFL

Of course, the usual disclaimer applies ... no financial interest, etc.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3797] Q-Dope
Message-ID: <199510042044.UAA18203@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

I have used for years clear finger nail polish and it works great. And at \$0.25 a bottle at most department stores or K-Mart or where ever it is a bargain.

Some people think that it is chemically identical to Q-dope. I don't know as I am a Physicist and after 18 hrs of Chemistry as an undergraduate with a double major I did a memory dump. :-) I still remember some stuff but not enough to write a page on. :-)

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [3777] This is Q-Dope
Message-ID: <n1399313312.82824@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Q- dope was made to keep the coil turns sealed against moisture. Early in radio, phenolic, (an early form of plastic), was being used as an insulator, but it was noticed that radios mistuned in damp environments. The tuning would go back to another frequency when the radio dried out.

This finding that phenolic and some other paper based insulating materials were hydroscopic, (would take up moisture) led to use of mica, a natural mineral insulator as a filler for the plastics to keep moisture from the voids. Thus you got the "mica-filled" phenolic insulated sockets, coil forms etc. As further protection, since early copper wire used silk or cloth insulation, a coating was used to stabilize turns from mechanical movement and moisture. Wax was used, (beeswax) and others, but in more recent times General Cement, who made radio TV chemicals, marketed Q- Dope which is polystyrene plastic dissolved in a solvent. The circuit remains "high Q" if you have a stable coil. "Now you know the rest of the story".

OBQRP: The heating of toroid wound coils in an oven is also for setting the windings, but one must not heat too high, or the curie point of magnetic materials could be reached and the frequency characteristics of the core change. Over time it has been observed that Heath HW-8(?) models sometimes have a core shift in characteristics.

Wind those coils tight!
72, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: H Smith <hbs@crl.com>
Subject: [3794] Thurs Nite Fox Times
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951004132333.29665A-100000@crl8.crl.com>

Ok, here's what we are going to do:

For Thursday night (10/5/95), I am going to split the time into 3 pieces. I will start out on 7.040 and then go to 7.110. Hopefully this will make the 7.110 segment a little later, thus giving the west coast a better chance.

Freq	West	Mtn	Cent	East
7.040	6:00-7:00	7:00-8:00	8:00 -9:00	9:00 -10:00
7.110	7:00-7:30	8:00-8:30	9:00 -9:30	10:00-10:30
7.040	7:30-8:00	8:30-9:00	9:30-10:00	10:30-11:00

Last night the freqs around 7.040 were crowded. So, be prepared to listen from 7.040 up to 7.045.

I am not sure about 7.110, but I will start there and go up if necessary.

I will call CQ FOX slower but will match your speed when you come back. Take your time, if I hear you we WILL make a contact out of it.

73 & CU on Thursday,

Smitty, NA5K

Henry Smith (hbs@crl.com)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
 From: Dan Puckett <af045@dayton.wright.edu>
 Subject: [3768] toriods
 Message-ID: <9510041423.AA22757@dayton.wright.edu>

I need some wisdom. I am at the point in putting together my Cascade where I am ready to wind a lot of coils. So, should boil all of the coils or just the VFO coil? What, exactly does that process do? How is the toriod attached to the board? The VFO coil is bolted down. That does not seem to be an option for all the rest of the coils. Are there any other toriod secrets of the trade I should be aware of?

Thanks for the help,

Dan, WD8AAU
 (af045@dayton.wright.edu)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
 From: "Eugene S. Tehansky" <tehansky@ameritel.net>
 Subject: [3796] Vote for emblem.. (late?)
 Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951004183209.3487A-1000000@atc.ameritel.net>

I am sure this is not the suggested method, but that message is gone and the archives proved fruitless because I was not persistent enough, and it might be to late..... but VA3YH is my vote.

de aa3av k

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3805] Worldradio Oct 1995 Vol 25 Nr 4
Message-ID: <199510050136.BAA18655@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Picked up a copy at Tucker Electronics here in Dallas today. It's probably been out a while, but what the hey.

Couple of notes from the desk of me:

1. I like to read things from cover to cover. Keeps me up to speed on the reading sometimes.
2. Richard Fisher, KI6SN, author of the QRP column in this issue features the St Louis Tuner Kit that will be offered by NorCal. This will be sometime in December timeframe and Doug Hedricks, KI6DS, will post here more info as it becomes fixed. The Cascade project is a full time job for him in whatever time he has left during a day. Estimated price tag of \$50.

The picture of the prototype built by Doug himself looks super. With an option of either the Sierra Case or NorCal 40 case, the price tag is not out of line. In fact with all the hardware, chassis punching (unless that is left as an exercise for the builder, which I doubt), and the meters there is no way that I could round up all the parts and get it that cheap.

Nice going by the St Louis Club with Keith Arns, KC0PP, and Dave Gauding, NF0R, leaders of the project. I could replace my MFJ-941C with this thing, since the MFJ lost a diode or two due to static discharge. I took the cover off and it is just too much work for me to get in there. Besides I have the OHR WM-1 inline anyway.

Let me take a minute and brag on Doug Hendricks. Here is a guy who started just a relatively few years ago and a self proclaimed novice in electronics and kit building started out forming a club and getting some projects going that put The Northern California QRP Club on the map. Now you see his name everywhere along with others in the club. He'd probably be the first to tell you that you too can do the exact same thing. Just set aside some time and dedicate time and money (it ain't a free ride) and get help every chance you can. My hat's is off to Doug and the gang. You gotta be a member to get the tuner, so join NorCal ASAP.

3. In the same column Rich mentions the upcoming QRP ARCI Fall QSO party so set aside some time the wee kend of Oct 14th and Oct 15th. Details to be posted next week.

In the Contest Corner by Don DUrk, KA1DWX, the dates and the contest chair are wrong. It's old information and out of date. Please ignore.

EOT on Worldradio

I mentioned to Phyllis when I got the Summer Issue of Hambrew that my picture was in there and I had seen myself in several pubs lately. I asked her what that meant and she said, "that means that you have been to too many dweeb things lately!". :-) I had to laugh at that one. ;-) :-)

FYI

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "John F. Woods" <jfw@jfwhome.funhouse.com>
Subject: [3790] Re: 'Stelth' antennas
Message-ID: <199510042030.QAA07177@jfwhome.funhouse.com>

> 1) Why do people say to use 300 ohm TV line? is it just because it is
> balanced? Or does it have something to do with 300 ohms?

They generally say this because it's a cheap equivalent of ladderline, and everyone knows ladderline is low loss. However, it turns out that TV twinlead

often isn't especially low-loss.

> 2) I'm thinking of making a remote antenna tuner. 50 ohm coax from the
> radio to the tuner, no feed line after that (just antenna). I'm thinking
> of a pi tuner (cap in series in, inductor to ground, cap in series out).
> Where should I put a balun to go from un-balanced (coax) to balanced
> (I hope) random wire antenna? Before or after the tuner?

Either place will work, however before the tuner is probably better; most baluns perform best if they see their designed impedance on both sides, so having the tuner present a fixed, balanced load makes it easy to design an efficient balun. (If you can model the actual antenna, you might be able to figure out whether having the transmatch transform to 50 ohms is more or less practical than having it transform to some other impedance and using the balun to make up the difference.)

> 3) How do you use an antenna tuner? Can't afford one that comes with
> instructions, but I think I can build one. Do you adjust the inductor
> for max power transfer, than both caps? Just keep twiddling until you
> get the most power transfer?

Um, the "T" tuner in my MFJ-whatever is roughly "adjust the inductor for maximum antenna noise, adjust the near cap for maximum power out, adjust the other cap for minimum SWR, lather, rinse, repeat." Unless I've forgotten again.

73 es gl,
John, WB7EEL/1

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Bill Acito 04-Oct-1995 1703 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>
Subject: [3793] Re: 'Stelth' antennas
Message-ID: <9510042102.AA08079@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

>> 3) How do you use an antenna tuner? Can't afford one that comes with
>> instructions, but I think I can build one. Do you adjust the inductor
>> for max power transfer, than both caps? Just keep twiddling until you
>> get the most power transfer?

>

>Um, the "T" tuner in my MFJ-whatever is roughly "adjust the inductor for
>maximum antenna noise, adjust the near cap for maximum power out, adjust the
>other cap for minimum SWR, lather, rinse, repeat." Unless I've forgotten
>again.

I've always...

- set both caps to the middle of their range
- adjust the inductor to max noise, min SWR
- adjust caps back and forth for min SWR

b

. - I own my own words -

Bill Acito
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS ... qrp-ne ... qrp-arci ... norcal ... arrl life

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Don_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com
Subject: [3806] RE: boatanchors
Message-ID: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>

>Anybody. Know the e mail address for the tube type radio gear mailing >list
called boatanchors? If so please e-mail me the address. tn timer Dave >WA7YCA

The list address is <boatanchors@theporch.com>.

To get subscription info send email to <listproc@theporch.com>. In text
body write : help.

Don Burns K4GHD/Lowfer

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: [3817] RE: boatanchors
Message-ID: <32456.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

In message Wed, 4 Oct 1995 21:52:45 EDT,

Don_Burns-EPUR01@email.mot.com writes:

>
>
>> Anybody. Know the e mail address for the tube type radio gear mailing
>> >list
> called boatanchors? If so please e-mail me the address. tn timer Dave >WA7YCA
>
> The list address is <boatanchors@theporch.com>.
>
> To get subscription info send email to <listproc@theporch.com>. In text
> body write : help.
>
To Subscribe: E-mail to listproc@theporch.com no subject line and in
the body Subscribe boatanchors <your name & Call>
73 Jim K4CGY

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "James C. Owen, III" <owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>
Subject: [3771] RE: Cascade & Q-dope
Message-ID: <40242.owen@apollo.eeel.nist.gov>

In message Wed, 4 Oct 1995 10:41:28 EDT,
Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG> writes:

>
> First of all, I know what Q-dope is and
> I know why you use it. Thing is...I don't have any and don't know where
> to get it. Two question, really...
>

Q-dope is available from: Ocean State Electronics
P.O. Box 1458
6 Industrial Dr
Westerly, RI 02891
1-800-866-6626

for \$3.75 for 2fl oz bottle. Their catalog is also great with a lot of
charts on winding toroids. Gives # turns of core type XX for an inductance
of XX. Ask for a catalog.

> 1. What would constitute a reasonable substitute for Q-dope? Mike Ardai
> mentioned making some from acetone and packing peanuts. Anyone have a
> recipe along those lines?
>

Why make it when you now know where to buy it?

> 2. How terrible a crime is it if I DON'T (gasp!) use it at all? And
> why is it necessary in the Cascade when it wasn't in the 40a?
>
> There will be less chance of inductance change when the windings are glued
down but it will work ok without it.

Maybe the replies (I hope there are some) should be posted to the
> list...I might not be the only lost soul wondering about this.
>

You asked, I delivered. 73 Jim K4CGY
James C. Owen, III
National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)
Bldg 225/B360
Gaithersburg, MD 20899
1-301-975-5623

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG>
Subject: [3786] Re: Cascade & Q-dope
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.951004121243.26043A-100000@class.class.org>

Thanks to all the respondees to this point. Looks like the consensus is
clear fingernail polish will do the job.

Oh Honeee.....

Thanks again...hope (I mean really hope, with many fingers and toes
crossed on this end) to work some other Cascade owners one day soon.

72/73 David N2SMH
Glen Rock, NJ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [3812] Re: Cascade & Q-dope
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951004192215.14384B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

David,
Some answers:

- 1) Oak Hills Research used to carry it - that's where I got mine.
- 2) It isn't "necessary", but it helps stability, just like boiling does.
I use it also to cement toroidal inductors down to the board.

On Wed, 4 Oct 1995, Electronic Design Magazine wrote:

>
> Here's a question from a relative newbie. I'm watching the posts about
> fixes, etc., and waiting for it all to shake out a bit before I start,
> (ahem) attempting to build my Cascade. I've read in the manual about
> coating the VFO coil with Q-dope. First of all, I know what Q-dope is and
> I know why you use it. Thing is...I don't have any and don't know where
> to get it. Two question, really...
>
> 1. What would constitute a reasonable substitute for Q-dope? Mike Ardai
> mentioned making some from acetone and packing peanuts. Anyone have a
> recipe along those lines?
>
> 2. How terrible a crime is it if I DON'T (gasp!) use it at all? And
> why is it necessary in the Cascade when it wasn't in the 40a?
>
> Maybe the replies (I hope there are some) should be posted to the
> list...I might not be the only lost soul wondering about this.
>
> 72/73 David N2SMH
> Glen Rock NJ
>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: smohan@telenet.com (Sam Mohan)
Subject: [3784] re: Earphones for crystal radios receivers
Message-ID: <9510041603.AA07898@orchid.telenet.com>

One good source for Hi-Z phones is Fair Radio Sales, Lima, OH.
Phone# 419-227-6573. U can buy genuine WWII head sets for under
\$15. I bought a pair of headphones (Z = 2 Kohms) for my tube rig
from them about 2 months ago. They are small, light-weight and
work very well, eventhough they look very well used. Call for
catalog. (It is no Victoria Secret, but if U dig Mil. Surplus/WWII suplus/
tube rigs, U will find a few nuggets in there!)

73 Sam N3UTM
SMohan@Orchid.Telenet.com

PS: I hv no financial interest in FRS. I am just a happy customer.

-----Begin inserted message-----

Newcomers may not be aware that the old crystal radio designs were based on use of high impedance headphones (usually about 2k ohms). Headphones sold today are usually around 8 ohms and are not likely to work well as substitutes. It might be worthwhile acquiring an older pair from a hamfest or flea market to use with your crystal radio.

73 de NT3G

-----End inserted message-----

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [3799] Re: Foxhunt info
Message-ID: <199510042352.VAA16118@public.compuserve.nf.ca>

Hi Gary,

I have a Bruce Williams TXRX QRP rig also, but presently I am waiting for Chuck K5FO to finish his evaluation and return to me (HINT CHUCK).

Anyway what do you do for TR switching? I seem to have problems n that area.

Tnx welcome on board 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>

>I'm running Bruce Williams' QRP kit, TXRX with a single crystal on 7040 with
>about 3 watts. (See 73 mag, April, 1993 for a description). Am having a
>ball! Have managed to work quite a few states, a VE6, VE7, XE1 and a HC3
>with a simple inverted vee dipole.

>

>73's,

>Gary

>KJ5VW

>

>

```
-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca                |
|                bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca                    |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com                        |
|-----
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Jim Kortge, NU8N" <jokortge@sun.lisp.com>
Subject: [3808] Re: Making Q-dope
Message-ID: <9510050152.AA26453@sun>

Mike, KK6GM wrote:

>Regarding making your own Q-dope by dissolving styrofoam in acetone,
>has anybody actually been able to make this work? When I tried it, I
>just got a coagulated lump of plastic at the bottom of the jar (exactly
>the consistency of melted cheese). The more styrofoam I added the
>bigger the lump got, but it never blended into the solvent, even with
>vigorous stirring. I tried a few different sources of styrofoam
>(packing peanuts, molded packing ends) with the same results. The only
>good part was the great dissolving effect itself, complete with hissing.
>

>So, anybody else have better success?

>

Well I'm glad I wasn't the only one who had the above result. I tried acetone
and MEK as solvents with no luck using packing peanuts (white ones). I did get
a buzz off of the frying noise though.

I have also used clear nail polish for several years, but didn't know whether
it was as good as the real thing e.g. Q-dope. Nobody in the Detroit area stocks
that stuff.

Gonna try Ocean State tomorrow and see if they will sell me some. Other
than that,
the Cascase is taking shape nicely.

72/73....Jim

Jim Kortge, NU8N		Bicycle Mobile Hams
jokortge@lisp.com	__o	of America
Fenton, MI	_`<	Mizuho 17m/40m QRP SSB
.. .. .	(*)/(*)	

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Lee Stanford" <lstanford@sj.aishd.com>
Subject: [3810] Re: Making Q-dope
Message-ID: <9509048128.AA812859458@sj.aishd.com>

I have a bottle of real Q-dope, and on the label it says "contains
toluene". As I had used up half of this "life time supply" as one
poster called it, I decided to try to make some of my own. I found a
can of toluene in the local hardware store (Orchard Supply), and

proceeded to take a pint jar, fill it 2/3 full of toluene, and add a 5 gallon bucket full of the white plastic packing peanuts. The toluene soaked up the entire mass of peanuts, leaving a milky looking syrup. After letting it set for several days the stuff cleared up, with a slightly yellowish color. Now I have almost a pint of Q-dope. Now this is a REAL life time supply. Sure hope I didn't shorten my life time with the fumes from this stuff mixing.

One WARNING. Do the mixing operation OUT-OF-DOORS, with a slight breeze blowing and STAY UP WIND where the fumes cannot get to you. And if the breeze stops blowing, cap the jar and stay away from this stuff until the wind picks up again. Healthwise it is probably better just to buy it by the bottle as you need it.

73, Lee KM6LA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu (Steve Hideg)
Subject: [3779] Re: Q-Dope
Message-ID: <v02130508ac98738bc167@[129.74.35.16]>

At 11:12 AM 10/4/95, Alfred M. Moyle wrote:

>The solvent in real Q-dope is toluene.

Why not just use "model airplane" glue?

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of University Computing	Telephone: (219) 631-EXAM
G034 Computing Center/Math Building	E-mail: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu
University of Notre Dame	URL: http://www.nd.edu/~shideg/
Notre Dame, IN 46556	Ham Radio: N8HSC/9

The road to Enlightenment is long and difficult.
(So bring snacks and a magazine.)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995

From: rgobrick@public.compuserve.com (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: [3800] Re: Q-Dope
Message-ID: <199510042352.VAA16117@public.compuserve.com>

Al and QRP-L gang,

Ocean States? Has anyone bought anything from Ocean States lately?

Thanks 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>I believe that Doug DeMaw used to advocate making your own Q-dope out of
>bits of polystyrene from model air planes dissolved in carbon tetrachloride.
>The problem is that it's getting hard to buy carbon tet due to it's role in
>depleting the ozone. The solvent in real Q-dope is toluene.

>

>If you want to buy some real Q-dope, it is available from Ocean State
>electronics in Rhode Island. I forget the price, but for a few bucks you
>get what is essentially a lifetime supply of the stuff. One nice thing
>about Ocean State is that their minimum order is only \$10. Hope this helps ...

>

>72,

>Al Moyle N3KFL

>

>Of course, the usual disclaimer applies ... no financial interest, etc.

>

>

>

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-----
| Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada |
| QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP |
| Internet:      rgobrick@public.compuserve.com                |
|                bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca                   |
| Compuserve:   70466.1405@compuserve.com                     |
|-----
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: af852@rgfn.epcc.edu (William R Colbert)
Subject: [3816] Re: Q-Dope
Message-ID: <9510051300.AA16487@rgfn.epcc.edu>

Another possible source for the Q-dope and other construction supplies
may be Antique Electronic Supply, Tempe, Az 602-820-5411. The cater
to the boatanchor crowd, but have an extensive supply of items for

use in building, including coils, coil stock, hardware, hollow-state electronic devices, cleaners, switches, etc. Best to call and get their up to date catalog. Sorry I don't have the street address, but at work and only have their phone number here. 72/73 Ray, W5XE

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: seront@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu (Bernard Seront)
Subject: [3778] Re:Q-dope substitute
Message-ID: <9510041729.AA06855@seism1.ess.sunysb.edu>

At 12:23 PM 10/4/95 EDT, Harry Chase wrote:
>I am not familiar with the Cascade, but I think in general the reason
>for Q-doping the coils is to prevent microphonic (vibration) problems
>with the radio. The turns on the coil, if not glued down firmly,
>can move or vibrate.
> Q-dope, or at least any of a number of substitutes for it ...

What about epoxy glue, any contra-indication

Bernard, KB2TGH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "John A. Evans" <jaevans@cos.cst.titan.com>
Subject: [3781] Re:Q-dope substitute
Message-ID: <199510041741.NAA28012@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

> > Q-dope, or at least any of a number of substitutes for it ...
>
> What about epoxy glue, any contra-indication
>
> Bernard, KB2TGH
>
>
>

What about Liquid Nails ? - This stuff reminds me of thick model cement but is somewhat pliable after drying, i.e., it is not as hard as epoxy or cement.

72
john, n3qoo

72

Ed Manuel, N5EM
n5em@aol.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [3811] Re: toriods
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951004191744.14384A-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Dan,
Boiling is necessary only for the VFO coil. I hold others down with
Q-dope. I also use magnifying glasses so I can see any overlapped turns
early and correct them. 72, Dave, W6EMD

On Wed, 4 Oct 1995, Dan Puckett wrote:

> I need some wisdom. I am at the point in putting together my Cascade where
> I am ready to wind a lot of coils. So, should boil all of the coils or
> just the VFO coil? What, exactly does that process do? How is the
> toriod attached to the board? The VFO coil is bolted down. That does not
> seem to be an option for all the rest of the coils. Are there any other
> toriod secrets of the trade I should be aware of?
>
> Thanks for the help,
>
> Dan, WD8AAU
> (af045@dayton.wright.edu)
>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: "Bradley Mugleston" <bmugleston@dtus.com>
Subject: [3775] Re: unsubscribe paul taylor wb2gin
Message-ID: <9509048128.AA812830596@cc2.dttus.com>

>help I cant get off the qrp-1 list and the list is overloading my mailbox.
>anyone please help

To unsubscribe send a message to:

listserv@lehigh.edu

and in the body of the message, not subject, put:

unsubscribe qrp-1

and that should take care of it. If you would still like to get the messages but would like them in one shot do the following insted of unsubscribe:

set qtr-1 mail digest

this will give you one LARGE file every day.

Hope this works

Brad Mugleston KB0ROL

The following is an attached File item from cc:Mail. It contains information that had to be encoded to ensure successful transmission through various mail systems. To decode the file use the UUDECODE program.

----- Cut Here -----
begin 644 RFC822.TXT
M4F5C96EV960Z(&9R;VT@9V%T93\$N9'1T=7,N8V]M(&)Y(&-C,BYD='1U<RYC
M;VT@*%-5%!,24Y+(&8R+C\$P+C`U\*0T\*("`@(#L@5V5D+"`P-"/8W0@.34@
M,#DZ,#(Z,C<@0U-4#0I2971U<FXM4&%T:#H@/'%R<"UL0&QE:&EG:"YE9'4^
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M960L(#0@3V-T(#\$Y.34@,#DZ,#`Z,C0@+3`U,#`-"E)E8V5I=F5D.B!F<F]M
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M,S4Y+DI!03`Y,3@V0'!I<&4U+FYY8RYP:7!E;&EN92YC;VT^#0I297!L>2U4
M;SH@<'1A>3%`<&EP96QI;F4N8V]M#0I/<FEG:6YA=&]R.B!Q<G`M;\$!L96AI
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M:6X-"E@M3&ES='!R;V-E<W-0<BU697)S:6]N.B`V+C!C("TM(\$QI<W10<F]C
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M=R!0;W=E<B!!;6%T975R(%)A9&E0(\$1I<V-U<W-I;VX-"D1A=&4Z("`@("!7
=960L(#0@3V-T(#\$Y.34@,3`Z,#`Z,3D@1414#0H`

end

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Oct 5 11:22:00 1995
From: dsa@apollo.hp.com
Subject: [3791] Re: Wire antenna help (LONG, Sorry)...
Message-ID: <199510042042.QAA69802@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hi Everyone!

I really appreciate everyone's help with my wire antenna question. I think I have several ideas to experiment with now. Several people had some questions for me, so I'm doing a group response...

Yes, I am located in Ft. Collins, CO., even tho' my email account is in Exeter NH / Chelmsford MA.

I repeat! I have NO trees on the property tall enough to be useful to support ANY kind of wire. The landscaping is very young.

The gutters are made of painted steel.

I have considered loading the rain gutters, but due to the shape of the house and roof, some of the gutters are 20' or so apart and at various angles to each other. The best of these gutters extending N/S is about 25' long but is only about 7' off the ground. The downspouts go ALL the way to the ground.

The siding on the house is cedar clappboard and brick. I'm not sure if there is foil in the walls since I wasn't around when the place was built.

There are no exposed beams in the cathedral ceiling area, just a wide open heat stealing waste of space coated in white stucco.

The flag pole idea is an interesting option, and one I hadn't considered, but I'm not sure if the wife will go for it. Also, I haven't seen others in the neighborhood. Maybe we'll be the first!

The back of the house is only 10' from a golf course so any wire sloper would have to run parallel to the house (assuming I'm trying to run it from the highest point), and that would bring it past the rain gutter. One other thing not mentioned is the 60kv powerlines that run parallel to the property, about 300' away (beyond the golf course). A sloper and most of the gutters will be parallel to these lines. One can easily hear the the powerline's corona hissing, from our deck on quiet evenings. So there's plenty of electrical noise in the area. My SW really picks it up on 80m. If only I could

phase those lines or their 100' towers into my signal....
..Yeah, right.

My wife USED to be a board member in the homeowners association, but gave it up when our child was on the way. Besides, she said it was like fighting city hall. Now that we do have a child, we're going to be outcasts in this neighborhood, anyway. I think the avg. age in the neighborhood is around 70. Children aren't real popular.

We are considering moving to a different neighborhood for unrelated reasons, but the timing isn't good, financially.

Yes, the water main does come into the basement 12', from the shack so it may be useful.

As far as mobile operation as an option goes, with some of the overlooks we have in the area, that may work pretty well. The biggest disadvantage to the mobile operation is that the antennas must be easily removable or adjustable so that I can get my vehicle in/out of the garage. The neighborhood has a two night maximum for outside parking.

Anyway, the 40m band seems to be the best with low noise, etc. for this area. That is why I'd prefer to put up something to work that band, even if it is JUST that band.

Whatever I use, it'll need to be able to handle QRO (gasp! sorry!) occasionally, without burning the house down. Though currently not yet ticketed, I need to get the antenna set up NOW because winter is going to be here in force by the time I take the exam. I'd rather get the majority of this outdoor stuff done while it's still fairly warm. I'll trim it later.

There. I think that covers most of the questions I was presented.

Here's one more for you...

Can anyone recommend a good versatile off-the-shelf antenna tuner that'll be effective for whatever bizzare antenna config I come up with? One that can work well at QRP as well as QRO ...at a reasonable price of course.

Thanks!

--And for the benifit of those who scolded me for no sig...

=====

Dale Anderson

New-Product Introduction Process Development Software Engineer

Hewlett-Packard Company
Computer Systems Organization
Solutions Manufacturing and Distribution Operation (East & West)
Exeter NH, Roseville CA, and Cupertino CA

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(970) 229-4642

=====